Pranav Minasandra

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Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior,
Bücklestraße 5a,
78467 Konstanz, Germany

Interests	I am keen on developing novel theories of behaviour in animals and developing methods to answer behavioural questions in creative ways. Particularly, I am interested in the dynamics of behaviour at the fine-scale, and how it connects with social behaviour.	
Education	**Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour, Konstanz, Germany** PhD - International Max Planck Research School of Organismal Biology	2020 onwards
	Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, India - Master of Science in Biology - Bachelor of Science (Research) with a major in Biology	2015 - 2020

Publications

1. **Minasandra**, **P.**, Jensen, F. H., Gersick, A. S., Holekamp, K. E., Strauss, E. D. & Strandburg-Peshkin, A. Accelerometer-based predictions of behaviour elucidate factors affecting the daily activity patterns of spotted hyenas. *Royal Society Open Science* **10,** 230750. doi:10.1098/rsos.230750 (Nov. 2023).

2. Kunjar, S., Strandburg-Peshkin, A., Giese, H., **Minasandra**, **P.**, Sarkar, S., Jolly, M. K. & Gradwohl, N. Link updating strategies influence consensus decisions as a function of the direction of communication. *Royal Society Open Science* **10,** 230215. doi:10.1098/rsos.230215 (June 2023).

3. **Minasandra**, **P.** & Isvaran, K. Truncated power-law distribution of group sizes in antelope. *Behaviour* **157,** 541–558. doi:10.1163/1568539X-bja10012 (2020).

Awards and fellowships	**DAAD - Graduate Student Scholarship Programme** Nominated after evaluation of my proposal €1200 per month for 4 years, as well as additional costs	2020 Oct onwards
	Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana *All India Rank : 135* Includes stipend and contingency	2015-2020
Mentorship	**Amlan Nayak** *Master thesis:* Spatial Variation of Vigilance in Meerkats.	2022 Jun-2023 Apr
	Ananya Passi *Summer research:* Mathematical modelling of habitat use and population dynamics.	2019 Jun-2020 May
Teaching	**Teaching Assistantship** For the course *Quantitative Ecology: Research Design and Inference* Assisted with coding in R, conducted several classes, graded assignments, managed course website.	2019 Aug - Dec
Contributed talks	**Descriptive & Normative Models of Collective Behaviour** *School of Mathematics, University of Leeds* "Looking into hyena daily activity patterns using accelerometers"	2022 June
	Animal Behaviour Society - Virtual Seminar 2021 "Behavioural classifier provides insights into spotted hyena behaviour"	2021 Aug

Technical skills

Programming languages and related
Python, Julia, R, Bash, LaTeX, and C. HTML, CSS, and git.

Computational skills
Parallel processing; Machine learning; Front-end development in `R Shiny`; Agent-based models;

Mathematical modelling
Models incorporating spatial and stochastic variables; Non-linear dynamics, including population dynamics and evolutionary dynamics; Probability models; Numerical simulations of all the above.

References

Dr Ariana Strandburg-Peshkin,
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Dr Alex L Jordan,
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Dr Kavita Isvaran,
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Dr Vishwesha Guttal,
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